REMARKS

In this response, Applicant has amended claims 1 - 4, 6 - 8, 11, and 12 to correct an informality in the preamble of claim 1, and further to remove a limitation that was unnecessarily introduced. The removal of this limitation is not in response to the office action of October 21, 2002.

In response to the Requirement Restriction, Applicant hereby elects, with prejudice, Claims 1 - 20, that are drawn to Group 1. Consequently, Applicant has canceled, without prejudice, the non-elected claims 21 - 38. Applicant reserves the right to file one or more continuing applications to claim the subject matter of the non-elected claims.

Applicant has further added new claims 39 - 46 to further capture the subject matter of the present invention. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1 - 4, 6 - 8, 11, and 12 have been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) A system [An apparatus] for automatically associating contextual input data with available multimedia resources, comprising:

a contextual input device for capturing the contextual input data;

[a personal] an assistant device for processing the contextual input data captured by the contextual input device, and for formulating a query based on processed contextual input data; and

a contextual multimedia association module for associating the processed contextual input data with the multimedia resources and for generating association matches.

2. (Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the [personal] assistant device automatically formulates the query.

3. (Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the [personal] assistant device automatically formulates the query based on a contextual input from a user.

4. (Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the [personal] assistant device automatically formulates the query based on a user profile.

6. (Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the [personal] assistant device presents the association matches to a user.

7. (Amended) The system according to claim 6, wherein the [personal] assistant device develops a digital profile for a user based on association matches which were previously presented to the user.

8. (Amended) The system according to claim 7, wherein the [personal] assistant device updates the user digital profile based on recent association matches.

11. (Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the contextual input data are based on image signals; and
    wherein the [personal] assistant device enhances the quality of the image signals.

12. (Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the contextual input data are based on audio signals; and
    wherein the [personal] assistant device enhances the quality of the audio signals.

Claims 21 - 38 have been canceled without prejudice.

New claims 39 - 46 have been added, as follows:

--39. (New) A system for automatically associating contextual input data with available multimedia resources, comprising:
    means for capturing the contextual input data;
    means for processing the contextual input data and formulating a query based on processed contextual input data; and
    means for associating the processed contextual input data with the multimedia resources and generating association matches.

40. (New) The system according to claim 39, wherein the means for processing and formulating the query comprises means for automatically formulating the query based on a contextual input from a user.

41. (New) The system according to claim 39, wherein the means for processing and formulating the query comprises means for automatically formulating the query based on a user profile.

42. (New) The system according to claim 39, further comprising means for presenting the association matches to a user.

43. (New) The system according to claim 42, further comprising means for developing a digital profile for a user based on association matches which were previously presented to the user.

44. (New) The system according to claim 43, wherein the means for developing the digital profile comprising means for updating the user digital profile based on recent association matches.

45. (New) The system according to claim 39, wherein the means for associating the processed contextual input data comprises means for applying the query to a data store on a network.

46. (New) The system according to claim 39, wherein the contextual input data are based on any one or more of image signals or audio signals; and
    wherein the means for processing the contextual input data comprises means for enhancing the quality of the any one or more of image signals or audio signals.--

All the claims presently on file in the present application are in condition for immediate allowance, and such action is respectfully requested. If it is felt for any reason that direct communication would serve to advance prosecution of this case to finality, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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Samuel A. Kassatly
6819 Trinidad Drive
San Jose, CA 95120
Tel: (408) 323-5111
Fax: (408) 323-5112

Samuel A. Kassatly
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 32,247